

## Message Text

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SUBJ: MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND CULTURAL RELATIONS,  
APRIL 25, 1975

REF: USNATO 1857

SUMMARY. DIVISION OF OPINION WHICH EXISTED DURING PAST TWO YEARS OVER VALUE OF NATO FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM PERSISTS, WITH SLIGHT WEAKENING OF SUPPORT FOR PROGRAM. MISSION REQUESTS DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL BY MAY 15 TO SUPPORT CONTINUANCE OF COMPROMISE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM WHICH HAS BEEN INCREASINGLY EFFECTIVE OVER PAST TWO YEARS. END SUMMARY.

I. NATO INFORMATION PROBLEMS INCLUDING ANTI-WESTERN PROPAGANDA

1. NOTHING SUGNIFICANT.

II. PREPARATION FOR CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL INFORMATION OFFICIALS

(CONIO)- JUNE 12-13

2. CHAIRMAN KOREN SAID HE WOULD CIRCULATE DRAFT AGENDA IN FIRST HALF OF MAY.

III. NATO RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

3. KOREN REVIEWED DISCUSSIONS AND DISAGREEMENTS WHICH LED

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TO COMPROMISE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM WHICH HAS EXISTED ON TEMPORARY BASIS FOR PAST TWO YEARS. THOUGH NOT ALL DELEGATIONS HAD INSTRUCTIONS TODAY, COMMITTEE SEEMS TO BE SERIOUSLY DIVIDED ONCE AGAIN ALONG ROUGHLY THE SAME LINES AS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS.

4. UK AND NORWAY WANT TO ABOLISH PROGRAM AND TRANSFER THE FUNDS TO NATO VISITS PROGRAM. NETHERLANDS, CANADA AND GREECE WISH TO ABOLISH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM BUT TO TRANSFER THE MONEY TO PROGRAMS HAVING A MORE CULTURAL OR SCHOLARLY NATURE, SUCH AS SUPPORT OF COLLOQUIA OR COMMISSIONING OF RESEARCH STUDIES BY ESTABLISHED SCHOLARS. FRANCE, BELGIUM AND TURKEY WISH TO RETAIN PRESENT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AND, IF POSSIBLE, INCREASE ITS BUDGETARY ALLOCATION. JUDGING BY POSITIONS TAKEN IN PREVIOUS YEARS ICELAND, ITALY AND PORTUGAL WILL PROBABLY WANT TO KEEP THE PRESENT PROGRAM. GERMANY, DENMARK AND LUXEMBOURG WILL PROBABLY JOIN IN WHATEVER CONSENSUS CAN BE REACHED BY OTHERS. US REP DID NOT STATE A POSITION.

5. ON BALANCE POSITIONS STATED TODAY REPRESENT A SLIGHT WEAKENING OF SUPPORT FOR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM. CANADA AND GREECE, WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED THE PROGRAM, FEEL THAT SINCE FUNDS AVAILABLE ARE TOO SMALL TO BE TRULY EFFECTIVE AND SINCE THERE IS NO LIKELIHOOD OF AN INCREASE BEING AGREED UPON, THE MONEY MIGHT JUST AS WELL BE REDIRECTED TO SOME OTHER CULTURAL PROGRAM.

6. WHILE US MISSION HAD PREVIOUSLY ADVOCATED ABOLITION OF FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM, WE THINK THAT COMPROMISE PROGRAM OF PAST TWO YEARS HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT OVER PAST. FACT THAT GENERAL TOPICS OF RESEARCH ARE NOW DETERMINED BY NATO RATHER THAN BY CANDIDATES HAS FOCUSED APPLICATIONS AND RESEARCH ON TOPICS RELEVANT TO NATO OBJECTIVES. THIS YEAR'S SELECTION PANEL HAS ATTESTED TO IMPROVED QUALITY OF APPLICATIONS. NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY NATIONAL AUTHORITIES HAS ALSO INCREASED, ATTESTING TO SUCCESS OF THIS PROGRAM IN STIMULATING GREATER INTEREST IN NATO-RELATED SUBJECTS AMONG SOCIAL SCIENTISTS IN NATO COUNTRIES.

7. USMISSION, THEREFORE, WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT CONTINUANCE OF PRESENT NATO FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM. MISSION'S ONE RESERVATION IS THAT NATO DOES VERY LITTLE FOLLOW-UP ONCE A FELLOWSHIP IS AWARDED. WOULD THEREFORE PROPOSE THAT IF PROGRAM IS CONTINUED CICR SHOULD STIPULATE THAT NATO INFORMATION SERVICE FOLLOW WORK OF INDIVIDUAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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GRANT RECIPIENTS TO REASSURE COMMITTEE THAT NATO-ORIENTATED RESEARCH FOR WHICH GRANTS ARE GIVEN IS IN FACT CARRIED OUT AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, THAT ALL RESULTING RESEARCH STUDIES ARE REVIEWED AT NATO AND HELPED TO GAIN A WIDE READERSHIP WHENEVER APPROPRIATE. TO ACHIEVE THIS END, MISSION WOULD PROPOSE THAT NATO INFORMATION SERVICE PREPARE ANNUAL FORMAL REPORT TO CICR.

IV. PUBLIC INFORMATION ASPECTS OF A POSSIBLE CSCE AGREEMENT  
8. COMMITTEE AGREED TO POSTPONE FURTHER DISCUSSION UNTIL AFTER SUBJECT AGAIN TAKEN UP IN SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

9. NEXT MEETING MAY 16.

10. ACTION REQUESTED

DEPARTMENT IS ASKED TO APPROVE BY MAY 15 COURSE OF ACTION OUT-  
LINED IN PARA SEVEN ABOVE.BRUCE

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